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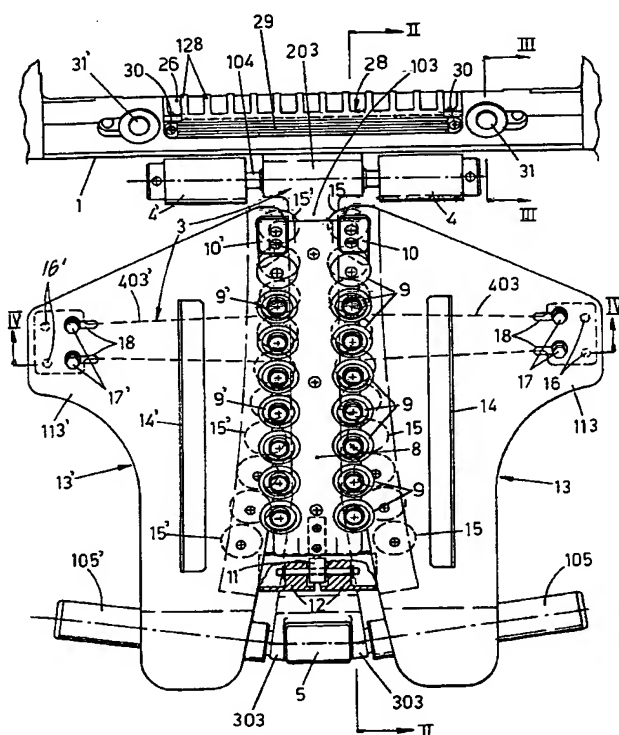
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(54) Title: FILM FOLDING AND SUPPLYING APPARATUS FOR STRETCH FILM PACKAGING MACHINES



(57) Abstract: The guiding means which provide to the pleating of the film (F) unwound from the bobbin and inserted in the packaging station, in order to adapt the width of the same film to the width of the products to be packaged, use rows of wheels (9, 9', 15, 15') to co-operate with the same film with rolling friction. The width of the pleated film may be adjusted by only adjusting of the reciprocal distance between the guides of lateral folding (13, 13'), and the corresponding rows of wheels (15, 15'). Before reaching between the folding guides, the packaging film runs on the convex portion of a transmission structure with an internal angle of about 170°, formed by a short central roller (5), and by long lateral rollers (105, 105'), all of them freely rotatable, which maintain the film transversally stretched and centered in correct manner on the following folding means. The roller (19) which maintains the lateral edges of the pleated film bearing on rubberised rollers (4, 4') placed at the outlet of the folding means, is provided with free-wheels, thanks to which this unit of rollers may rotate only in the travelling direction of the film and not in the opposite direction. The pleated film which comes out from the said rollers (4, 4', 19) arrives to a particular comb-shaped distributor, provided with electromagnets (31, 31') that, when are deactivated allow to the film to freely run through said distributor and when are activated, transversally stop the same film between strips of rubber (29, 37) carried by the opposite jaws of the same distributor.

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